

# Raiders face suspension from OHA

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# the HERALD

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## Authority blames town for floods

Failure to properly complete a channelization program of the Credit River at Glen Williams has been blamed by Credit Valley Conservation Authority officials as one of the chief reasons for last week's major flood.

Regardless of who was to blame for the floods, which created a still undetermined amount of damage to a number of homes in the Glen Williams area, Halton Region will be asked to pay for work required to clear up the aftermath.

Gus Ribeiro, director of conservation services for the CVCA, reported to the authority's executive last Friday morning that a three-phase channelization program begun in 1967 for the Glen Williams area had gone no further than the first phase because of a lack of funds. That first phase resulted in re-channeling of the river for a distance of 2,000 feet downstream from the Main Street bridge in the Glen. Funds were not made available for the next two phases.

When Halton Hills Mayor Tom Hill questioned who was responsible for not providing further funds Mr. Ribeiro noted that the Esqueuing Township council had set

aside funds for 45 percent of the first phase only. They did not ask for any further channelization work on the river. "That was the last correspondence we received from Esqueuing about the channelization program."

Mr. Ribeiro added that if the program was to be effective in controlling spring runoffs all three phases had to be completed. The section of the Credit from the bridge to the Paper Mill dam would have been re-channelled through the project.

While further stages of this year's serious flood are carried out by the authority's experts, the bill for the cleaning up operations will be sent to Halton which, according to the authority, will be the benefitting municipality for all work carried out.

The flood, said CVCA general manager Harry Watson, brought to light the "deficiencies in authority policy and equipment for action to be taken by staff in emergency flood conditions."

He noted, "From February 23 to 25, 1973 the staff has been severely hampered by lack of policy and equipment to assist in flooding situations at various locations on the Credit River."

"Normally it is a case of too much ice and too much water and nothing can be done. For doing nothing the authority is severely criticized but some of the time something can be done if the proper equipment is available and if only one life is saved the equipment can be considered paid for in full."

"One of the main objectives of a conservation authority is flood control. No action is really warranted unless people or property are endangered but if they are, then action should be taken as soon as possible to alleviate the problem with all available resources."

"If the authority does not want to be actively involved then the flood warning system should be turned over to the municipalities, however since the authority has jurisdiction of all water courses this would not seem to be a rational move and would be a very serious mistake from a public relations viewpoint."

The authority is now considering obtaining a number of pieces of emergency equipment including a special four-wheel drive vehicle and an emergency communications system.

The most valuable piece of equipment the authority has on hand right now for preventing future floods, Mayor Tom Hill commented, are the residents who live along the river. Mayor Hill was highly critical of the authority's handling of the flood. "If they had just contacted people who live along the river and who know the actions of the river they could have solved a lot of the problems before they occurred," Mayor Hill said.

Blasting should have been carried out early Monday to break up two ice jams farther up the river, he said. "If they had been blasted the river would have been able to find its own course." As it was, he said, when the jams broke further up the river early Monday evening the ice and water flooded into Glen Williams where it ran into another blockage.

Mr. Ribeiro, however, disagreed, explaining that an expert in explosives viewing the jams early Monday afternoon stated that blasting would not be feasible. Thus the authority did not consider blasting until late that night, but, because of the danger in setting dynamite in the dark, waited until Tuesday morning to carry out the blasting operations.

Meanwhile work in the Glen continues as residents of the area attempt to clear up the large amount of ice left behind as the river receded late last week. The ball park in particular is covered with huge pieces of ice. Residents are upset that the park, constructed and improved through citizen's efforts, may not be usable this summer because of the flood damage.

Mayor Hill voiced many fears that the larger pieces of ice may not melt until late spring or early summer. They cannot be removed by truck, before then, he said, for fear of damage to the soft ground underneath during removal.

The matter is expected to be discussed both by the region's works department and the town's.

## 3,000 new homes planned but not approved

A major, 1,000-acre housing subdivision south of Silver Creek has yet to get the stamp of approval from the Halton Hills subsidiary planning board.

Bob Jarvis, a legal representative of McLaughlin Developments, last Tuesday presented plans to the planning board that his firm has proposed for a large tract of land located south of Silver Creek between the 8th and 9th Lines.

Mr. Jarvis noted that the company's intention is to preserve the valley land as a recreational area complete with nature trails, cross country skiing areas and other outdoor activity areas.

For the housing side of the project the firm plans four units per gross acre for a total of between 3,000 and 4,000 homes. These would be constructed in cluster-type units with ample open space surrounding them.

Mr. Jarvis pointed out that the type of housing proposed would decrease road requirements. The parkland development would be paid for by the developer.

Also included in the plans was a small resort hotel complete with dining lounge, tennis courts and a swimming pool.

Limited sewage facilities in Georgetown, even after the proposed expansion to the present plant is completed, was listed by the planning board members as being one of the chief reasons for their refusal to grant a go-ahead for the project. The town's facilities would not have the capacity for a development of the size set out in the McLaughlin proposal, the board noted.

Ernie Bodnar, also representing McLaughlin, stated that they felt that the sewage problems could possibly be overcome. However, a second roadblock set down by the planning board might not be that easy to overcome.

The board noted that at a previous meeting with the McLaughlin representatives it was explained that any proposal for the parcel of land would have to include an industrial and commercial park. Mr. Bodnar replied that such an area would not be compatible with the overall design of the McLaughlin housing plan.

After a fair amount of discussion on the proposal the planning board agreed that the project "as presented is premature, and this committee suggests that the applicants re-submit their proposal with consideration given to industrial-commercial land arrangements meetings with the town planner and town engineer."

In other business dealt with at last week's subsidiary planning board meeting:

A 29-unit single family subdivision planned for the northeast half of Lot 1, Concession 8, Town of Halton Hills by J. Shaw for Norshaw Development Ltd. was refused. The proposal, which included the dedication of two additional acres for parkland, was found to contravene the town's planning policies plus the land involved is prime agricultural land.

A 12-unit subdivision on Arletta Street, Georgetown will be studied by the town engineer and department heads before any decision is made. The subdivision by Windland Associates is a redraft of an earlier proposal. It calls for 12, single family units.

## Yes it's final, "No"

Despite strong protests by Councillor Harry Levy the final word on sprinklers in the new Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena is a firm "No."

Council has finally accepted a general administration committee recommendation that no sprinkler system be installed in the arena. Council noted, however, that that does not mean the arena will be limited only to ice activities. The recreation director has been authorized by council to program the arena facilities for many uses other than ice hockey or skating including beer gardens, dances and perhaps even a circus or two. The only thing that won't be allowed because of the lack of sprinklers will be trade shows.

Councillor Levy was the lone man to oppose the recommendation claiming that the costs involved in installing a sprinkler system in the arena would pay for the system in a few years through reduced insurance rates. "Whatever we would pay for insurance premiums would be much less if we had a sprinkler system in the new arena."

Councillor Levy also pointed that the town's building code states that sprinklers are necessary in buildings such as the arena.

Fire chief Ken Bulkema has stated firmly that the building, to meet those building standards, must have a sprinkler system in it.

To that Councillor Mike Armstrong replied, "The fire chief seems to be going out of his way to make it uncomfortable for some people." The national building code, which is included in the town's code, does not require sprinkler systems in a building unless trade shows are planned for it, Councillor Armstrong said.

"To the best of my knowledge there have not been any in Georgetown for quite some time. Maple Leaf Gardens, said Councillor Armstrong, does not even have sprinklers and, as far as costs are concerned, he estimated that it could take up to 77 years to pay for the system.

## \$440 hair dryers

Halton Hills committee of the whole was split 6-5 when it came to paying \$2,200 for five hair dryers to be installed in the new Acton swimming pool.

A recommendation from the general administration committee that the recreation director be authorized to buy the dryers at roughly \$440 each was quickly sent back by the committee of the whole Monday for further study.

Councillor Dick Howitt explained that the committee was hopeful of getting a lower price on the dryers by buying them at the same time similar hair dryers are purchased for the new Georgetown indoor swimming pool.

But the cost wasn't the thing that upset Mayor Tom Hill the most. "I'm concerned with putting these dryers in the change rooms where youngsters are running around with little supervision."

**HERALD**  
Your Morning Smile

Did you hear about the poor councillor who attended too many council meetings?  
No. What happened?  
He got motion sickness.

## Winter Carnival at GDHS



SNOW QUEEN 1973 is Kathy Robbins, a Grade Ten student at Georgetown District High School. Cathy was chosen from among eight other hopefuls, all competing for the

coveted title of Snow Queen for the week-long winter carnival to be held at GDHS this week. "I just have to thank all the merchants for all the gifts and Dianne Cousens who organized

the pageant," said Kathy after the presentation. She is 15 years old and when she leaves high school she hopes to become a chartered accountant.

The 1973 Georgetown District High School Winter Carnival officially got underway early Saturday morning with the first pancake flipped at the Pancake Breakfast which has traditionally begun all Winter Carnivals.

Part of the Winter Carnival includes crowning of the Snow Queen who will reign over the activities of the carnival. Kathy Robbins, a Grade Ten student was chosen as Snow Queen at the Snow Queen Pageant held Saturday evening.

She was chosen from seven other contestants on the basis of personality, attractiveness and interests. Judges for the

contest were Leslie Mitchell, a former Snow Queen, presently Miss Oakville; Mrs. Packer, personnel manager at Zellers; Bettianne Smith of "by bettianne"; Peter Hughes of Braeside Farms and Fred Kotani, head of the Physical Education Department at the high school.

Mural King, Sharon Trucko, Angie Loanolis and "Miss Congenially", Sue Horvath did not make it to the second round of the competition for the title, leaving runners-up Cathy Burgoyne, Ingrid Bulkema and Sherry Hull to be princesses for the new Queen.

A special "exclusive showing" of lingerie

with top foreign fashion models was one of the highlights of the evening, as eight of the best representatives from the boys' locker room entertained with host Bob McBean handling the judging.

Host for the evening was Phil McLaughan of the English Department.

Music was provided by Doug Gray, Eric St. Andrews, Gary Creary, Rob Davidson and Dave Nemeth.

In addition to receiving the title of Snow Queen '75, prizes from many local merchants were also awarded to Miss Robbins.

A euchre night starting at 7:30 Thursday and a Mardi Gras dance, Friday will close the week's activities.

## CVCA questions policy

A last minute deal which could provide the Credit Valley Conservation Authority a large parcel of land in the Silver Creek area for half of its original price was seriously questioned by the authority's executive last Friday over the manner in which the CVCA carries out its land acquisitions.

"If we accept this offer," said authority chairman Grant Clark, "are we not guilty if someone should start crying Deal! Deal!?"

The land is a 105-acre parcel located on Lot 27, Concession 10 of Esqueuing Township. The authority, as part of its master plan to acquire lands along the Niagara Escarpment for development as parkland, had been negotiating with the owner of the property, Douglas Starret, to acquire the land.

Talks over the sale of the property ran into a dead end, however, on negotiations with another party who owns the mineral rights to the land. According to Harry Watson, general manager of the authority, to acquire the mineral rights would almost

double the price of the property.

Mr. Starret has requested a severance for two small lots on the property. But the authority and the Niagara Escarpment Commission, both of which oppose cutting up the escarpment through separations for resident purposes objected to the request. The matter was sent to the Ontario Municipal Board which has scheduled hearings on the matter beginning March 12.

At Friday's meeting, however, Mr. Watson explained that the authority's purchase offer has since been accepted by both Mr. Starret and the owner of the property's mineral rights, dependent upon the severance of the two, 3.7-acre lots. Mr. Starret has also asked that he be allowed to retain a 25-acre section on which his house, barn and well are located.

"Is our land acquisition up for sale?" Mr. Clarkson bluntly questioned. Mayor Tom Hill, chairman of the authority's parks and recreation committee,

called for a close look at the CVCA's methods of obtaining lands. "We first of all have to make up our minds whether or not we want the property. If we do then we should set the price and go out and get the land. The way we're doing it now we could hold him up from doing anything with his land for up to 50 years. You've got to be prepared to pay the price."

"When we decided to set up this prime acquisition area we said we were going to acquire all the necessary land east of Highway 7. This is east of Highway 7 so let's get it."

The authority executive decided that an appraisal on the property's value be carried out.

The last minute change in position by Mr. Starret and the authority will not mean, however, a postponement of the upcoming OMB hearings. Once the appraisal of the property is completed the OMB will be notified of the land's value and the authority's intent to acquire it.